

Amendments to the Specification:

A paragraph was added to the specification in the Amendment dated October 5, 2006. This paragraph was added after paragraph [0012]. Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph that was added in the Amendment dated October 5, 2006:

The porous ceramic phase includes a discrete ceramic layer, and the porous polymer phase includes a discrete polymer layer. The interphase region is situated between the discrete layer of the porous ceramic phase and the discrete layer of the porous polymer phase. The discrete layer of the porous ceramic phase is positioned on the top of the interphase region, and the discrete layer of the porous polymer phase is positioned on the bottom of the interphase region. The discrete layer of the porous polymer phase could be positioned on only one side of the interphase region.